



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/573,211

01/17/2007

Yasutoshi Kawaguchi

OKUDP0163US

7642

51921

7590

11/12/2009

MARK D. SARALINO (PAN)
RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP
1621 EUCLID AVENUE
19TH FLOOR
CLEVELAND, OH 44115

EXAMINER

SAYADIAN, HRAYR

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2814

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

11/12/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/573,211	Applicant(s) KAWAGUCHI ET AL.	
	Examiner HRAYR A. SAYADIAN	Art Unit 2814	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 August 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3,13,14 and 17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-12,15 and 16 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED OFFICE ACTION

Restriction Requirement Based on Lack of Unity

1. The election of Group II by the 8/24/2009 "Reply" is noted.
2. Within Group II, claims 1, 2, 4-12, 15, and 16, Applicant is required under PCT Rules 13.1-13.4 (See M.P.E.P. § 1850) to elect one of the following Species for prosecution on the merits.

Group II-A. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 15, and 16.

Group II-B. Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-9, 15, and 16.

Group II-C. Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 15, and 16.

Group II-D. Claims 1, 2, 10, 12, 15, and 16.

Groups II-A - II-D lack "special technical feature" under PCT Rules 13.1-13.4 because claim 4 recites a different technical feature than claim 10, neither of which features being a special technical feature. .

Specifically, as admitted by the specification, as shown in FIG. 2, claim 4 lacks special technical feature because the prior art well recognizes the usefulness of using Al containing between the first p-layer and the active layer.

And as admitted by the specification, as shown in FIG. 3, claim 10 lacks special technical feature because the prior art well recognizes the usefulness of using a third p-type layer having a smaller band-gap than the second p-type layer, the second p-type layer being between the first and third p-type layers.

A complete reply to this requirement must:

1. **elect an invention to be examined even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR § 1.143); and**
2. **list all claims reading on the elected invention, including any claims subsequently added.**

Art Unit: 2814

An argument that all claims are allowable, or that the requirement is in error, is nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election. See, for example, M.P.E.P § 818.03(b).

To preserve a right to petition under 37 CFR § 1.144, Applicant must elect with traverse. See, for example, M.P.E.P. § 818.03(c). An untimely traversal loses the right to petition under 37 CFR § 1.144. A traversal must be presented at the time of election to be considered timely.

If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse. See, for example, M.P.E.P § 818.03(a).

Should Applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions are not patentably distinct, Applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if Examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of the other invention.

If claims are added after the election, Applicant must indicate which of these claims are readable on the elected invention. See M.P.E.P. § 809.02(a).

Upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, Applicant must amend the inventorship complying with 37 CFR § 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Amending inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR § 1.48(b) and include the fee required under 37 CFR § 1.17(i).

CONCLUSION

3. A shortened statutory period for reply to this Office Action is set to expire **ONE MONTH** from the mailing date of this Office Action. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR § 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from an Examiner should be directed to Examiner Hrayr A. Sayadian, at (571) 272-7779, on Monday through Friday, 7:30 am – 4:00 pm ET.

Art Unit: 2814

If attempts to reach Mr. Sayadian by telephone are unsuccessful, his supervisor, Supervisory Primary Examiner Wael Fahmy, can be reached at (571) 272-1705. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available only through Private PAIR. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. The Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) may answer questions on how to access the Private PAIR system.

/HAS/

/Wael M Fahmy/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2814